

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Duane Ankney, on February 16, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)
Sen. Pat Connell, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Mary McNally (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SJ 10, 2/3/2017; SB 210, 02/08/2017

Executive Action: SB 154, Do Pass As Amended; SB 168, Do Pass As Amended

00:00:39 Chair Ankney

HEARING ON SJ 10

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:23 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SJ 10, Joint resolution regarding the keystone pipeline.

EXHIBIT(ens34a01)

00:01:25 Sen. Vuckovich left the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:06:07 Jessica Sena, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)
00:09:32 Chris Cavazos, Montana American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations
00:10:10 JD Lynch, Teamsters #2, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers # 44, Montana Building Construction Trades
00:10:42 Gary Wiens, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
00:11:20 Cary Hegreberg, executive director, Montana Contractors' Association
00:12:13 Jason Rittal, Fallon County (FC)
00:13:36 Gary Forrester, Montana Dakota Utilities Resources
00:14:14 John Metropoulos, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties
00:15:13 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association
00:15:52 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
00:16:34 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce
00:17:26 Shane Gorder, county commissioner, Richland County

Opponents' Testimony:

00:18:22 Nadine Nadow, Montana Environmental Information Center
00:22:55 Dan Roper, Montana Audubon

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:30:25 Sen. Malek
00:30:57 Ms. Sena, MPA
00:31:18 Sen. Lang
00:32:18 Sen. Malek
00:32:48 Sen. Lang
00:33:23 Sen. Regier
00:34:53 Sen. Lang
00:35:01 Sen. Regier
00:35:38 Mr. Rittal, FC

Closing by Sponsor:

00:36:04 Sen. Lang

00:38:22 Chair Ankney

HEARING ON SB 210

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:38:50 Sen. Sue Malek (D), SD 46, opened the hearing on SB 210, Revise public service commission laws and qualifications.

[EXHIBIT](#)(ens34a02)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:51:53 Travis Kavula, Public Service Commission (PSC)

[EXHIBIT](#)(ens34a03)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:57:40 Sen. Blasdel

00:58:23 Sen. Malek

00:59:03 Sen. Barrett

01:00:30 Sen. Connell entered the hearing.

01:02:49 Sen. Malek

01:03:11 Sen. Wolken

01:04:23 Mr. Kavula, PSC

01:04:49 Sen. Kary

01:09:33 Sen. Malek

Closing by Sponsor:

01:10:38 Sen. Malek

01:13:16 Chair Ankney

01:13:44 Sen. Regier

01:14:07 Chair Ankney

01:14:59 Brief Recess

01:25:50 Reconvened

Discussion:

01:25:53 Chair Ankney
 01:26:26 Sen. Blasdel
 01:27:22 Chair Ankney
 01:27:32 Brad Johnson, chairman, Public Service Commission
 01:30:48 Chair Ankney
 01:32:13 Sen. Wolken
 01:32:30 Sen. Barrett
 01:32:47 Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Services Division
 01:33:24 Chair Ankney

01:33:28 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Blasdel moved **THE INTRODUCTION OF A COMMITTEE BILL FOR A SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING POLICIES FOR ADVANCED TRANSMISSION LINES**. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Sen. McNally and Sen. Vuckovich voted by proxy.

01:33:40 Chair Ankney

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 154

01:34:57 **Motion:** Sen. Connell moved that **SB 154 DO PASS**.

01:35:48 **Motion:** Sen. Kary moved that **SB 154 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(ens34a04\)](#)

Discussion:

01:36:04 Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
 01:38:17 Sen. Regier
 01:38:26 Ms. Nowakowski, LSD

01:38:48 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Sen. McNally and Sen. Vuckovich voted by proxy.

Discussion:

01:40:09 Sen. Barrett
 01:40:36 Sen. Malek

01:41:15 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Connell moved that **SB 154 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion carried 8-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Barrett, Sen. Malek, Sen. McNally, Sen. Vuckovich and Sen. Wolken voting no. Sen. McNally and Sen. Vuckovich voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 168

01:42:32 **Motion:** Sen. Malek moved that **SB 168 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

01:42:44 Sen. Malek

01:43:05 **Motion:** Sen. Malek moved that **SB 168 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(ens34a05)

Discussion:

01:44:06 Sen. Malek

01:44:14 Sen. Barrett

01:44:32 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-1 by roll call vote with Sen. Connell voting no. Sen. McNally and Sen. Vuckovich voted by proxy.

01:45:34 **Motion:** Sen. K. Regier moved that **SB 168 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(ens34a06)

Discussion:

01:46:13 Sen. Regier

01:47:38 Sen. Malek

01:48:03 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Sen. McNally and Sen. Vuckovich voted by proxy.

01:48:53 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Malek moved that **SB 168 DO PASS AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Sen. McNally and Sen. Vuckovich voted by proxy.

01:49:53 Chair Ankney

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:55 PM

Charlene Devine, Secretary

cd

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens34aad.pdf](#))